been stated that the cylinder for domestic purposes is Rs. 57.60 whereas for commercial use it is priced at Rs. 98.15. It has also been stated in the news item that there is blackmarketing and the cylinders which are meant for domestic purposes are being diverted for commercial purposes. The commercial man is paying only the domestic price and in this way the Government is also losing money. Perhaps this news item might have been seen by the hon. Minister. If so, what is his reaction?

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: Sir, I have seen this news item. This type of news comes from others also. There is one difficulty, that is, we have to differentiate between industry and commercial and domestic consumer use because we do not want to put the consumers into trouble. We do not want to burden them with more prices. Therefore, we have to create differentiated prices. If there is any case of malpractice and misuse that will be taken care of.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are spurious gas cylinders available in Delhi and these spurious gas cylinders cause accidents. May I know from the hon. Minister what specific steps his Ministry is taking to check and stop these spurious gas cylinders?

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: In fact, the distributors are not supposed to give refills or connections to anybody who does not have ISI mark gas stove or regulator. But there are certain people who are using and there have been some accidents and we are trying to check them.

श्री बी० सत्यनारायण रेड्डी : सभापति महोदय, जो रसोई गैस के सिलेंडर्स सप्लाई किए जाते हैं, उनमें कमी है ही तो इसके साथ जो गैस सिलेंडर्स में भरी जाती है उसमें भी कमी आ रही है । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि डीलरों को चैक करने के लिये सरकार ने कोई ऐसा इंतजाम किया है कि वह बराबर गैस भरे हुए सिलेंडर्स कन्ज्यूमर्स को सप्लाई करें या उसमें कोई घपला होता है तो उसे रोकने के लिये सरकार ने क्या इंतजाम किया है ?

श्री ब्रह्म दत्त : मान्यवर, यह गैस सिलेंडर्स हमारे गैस बाटलिंग प्लाट्स से भरकर आते हैं और वहां इस बात का पर्याप्त मात्रा में ध्यान रखा जाता है कि गैस की कमी न हो । अब तो सील का प्रावधान भी किया गया है । अगर सील नहीं लगी है या टूटी हुई है तो कंज्यूमर उसे लौटा सकता है ।

Decision taken on Pepsi Cola

*86. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:†

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision on the proposal of the American Company, Pepsi Cola to manufacture soft drink in collaboration with Punjab Agro Industries Corporation; and

(b) if so, what was the decision taken by the Government and whether the said decision is likely to affect adversely the interests of the existing soft drink industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Pepsi Cola project is not in a priority sector and for that indigenous technology is available. May I know from the Minister whether a committee of eight Ministers of the Government have approved the project and it is awaiting a decision by the Cabinet? If so, on what grounds the eight Ministers have given their approvil when indigenous technology is available for soft drinks?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Sir, this question is not correct. There is no approval by the eight Ministers. It is only under the consideration of the Government.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. Narayanasamy.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, the information which was given to me by the press and other people is that this project is pending a decision for the past four years. This issue has been raised in this House since 1985. May I know from the hon. Minister why they have not taken any decision either approving the project or rejecting it? Why they are lying over the matter and what is the reason for it?

As on today, at what stage the matter stands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): The proposal was submitted by the Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation in July, 1986 and it involves so many departments. We have consulted all the departments and a decision will be taken very shortly by the Government.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: What is the stage?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The stage is pending with the Government.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, the hon. Minister is evading the answer. He is not giving a proper reply. For the past four years it is pending. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Sir, we want a half-an-hour discussion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We want half-an-hour discussion on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You apply for that. Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Refund of deposit money by automobile manufacturers

*84. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA:
SHRI SHARAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had issued any guidelines regarding the use of depositors' money with the automobile manufacturers to facilitate refund of deposits by the manufacturers when asked for by the depositors;

(b) whether Government are aware that Lohia Machines, Andhra Pradesh Scooters and Scooters India Ltd. are not refunding for long the deposit money paid by thousands of depositors;

(c) whether Government have, at any time, made an assessments as to how far the guidelines are being observed by the automobile manufacturers in the utilisation of the depositors' money; and

(d) if so, what is the outcome thereof stating the steps contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is aware that there are a number of cases where, on being asked by the prospective customer to do so, certain compenies have taken unduly long time to refund the advance money taken by them against booking of vehicles.

(c) Reports are received from some companies regarding deployment of the advances collected by them from the consumers in pursuance of the guidelines issued by the Government.

(d) Whenever a complaint is received by the Government regarding delay in refund of advance money it is taken up with the company, concerned for providing prompt relief to the complainant. Govern-